



News From Congresswoman Hilda L. Solis 32nd Congressional District of California

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SOLIS SUPPORTS LEAD FREE COMMUNITIES

WASHINGTON, D.C.-*Today, Congresswoman Hilda L. Solis (CA-32) released the below statement after touring several low-income lead free homes renovated by the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program. Solis played an important role in obtaining the HUD grant for Los Angeles County Department of Health Services Lead Program to clean up homes with lead hazards.*

“I am pleased that the critical federal assistance I secured helped make this lead cleanup effort in East Los Angeles and El Sereno so successful. To ensure the health of all families and their children, I support programs that provide a comprehensive approach to combating lead contamination in homes. I also support legislative efforts to promote the removal of lead from our families' homes, including providing tax credits to property owners that remove lead-based paint hazards.

“The Department of Housing and Urban Development Lead Hazard Control Grant Program effectively solution to addresses and educates low-income communities about the dangers of lead contamination.

“It is a proven fact that children who live in minority, urban and low-income communities have a greater exposure risk to lead contamination. In the United States, lead-based paint in homes constructed before 1978 have been found to pose the highest risk for children and pregnant women. Lead exposure causes learning disabilities, developmental delays and a host of other problems.

“The Los Angeles County Department of Health Services Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program has conducted extensive outreach in both the east Los Angeles and City Terrace communities. As a result of that outreach and education, a total of 963 residential households have been contacted, 369 applications have been received, 140 residential units have been identified with lead contamination, 107 residential units have been awarded, 16 are under lead abatement construction, 84 homes have been completely lead free, and of the 303 children under age 6 tested, 79 children suggest lead contamination blood lead levels (BLL).

“While these findings are disturbing, it proves that we need to do more to protect our children and families from lead contamination. I believe that my colleagues in the Congress need to be made aware of the risk that our children are facing.”

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